

REPUBLICAN POLICY COMMITTEE

## Congress of the United States House of Representatives

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March 18, 2008

The Honorable Michael W. Wynne Secretary of the Air Force 1670 Air Force Pentagon Washington, DC 20330-1670

Dear Mr. Secretary:

On February 29, 2008, the Air Force awarded a \$35 billion KC-X Next Generation Air-refueling Tanker contract to the Northrop Grumman (NG)-European Aeronautic Defence and Space (EADS) Team. This controversial issue has brought wide-spread concern and many of us in Congress need more information on the selection process.

Although the House Defense Appropriations Subcommittee has received a formal briefing and conducted several hearings with Air Force leadership, there are many unanswered questions. The Air Force continues to provide piecemeal information on the decision, raising more questions than answers about the fairness and logic of this competition.

Though Members of Congress remain uninformed about much of this process, the Air Force extensively debriefed Dr. Loren B. Thompson, Ph.D. with the Lexington Institute on the day of the award announcement regarding the decision and rationale. Dr. Thompson was provided this information prior to either competitor or a single Member of Congress.

I respectfully request the following documentation regarding the KC-X competition:

- All documentation briefed or provided to Dr. Loren B. Thompson, Ph.D. regarding the KC-X decision
- A list of Government officials who discussed the KC-X Tanker decision with Dr. Loren B. Thompson, Ph.D. on Friday, February 29, 2008
- Northrop Grumman's Official Bid Proposal
- The Boeing Company's Official Bid Proposal
- The official Debrief Presentations of the KC-X Tanker Award Decision
- Any appropriate data to the KC-X Tanker Competition and Award

Congress has a responsibility to fully review this important decision. Until all the relevant information is provided, however, Congress can not be expected to support this controversial decision. I look forward to your prompt reply.

Sincerely,

Todd Tiahrt

Member of Congress